



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Rachel Rosen
PHONE: 240-547-4305
EMAIL: rrosen@mchumane.org

Paws in the Park Dog Walk and Fest – Join the Fun on April 28, 2019

Gaithersburg, MD – The Montgomery County Humane Society, in partnership with the City of Gaithersburg, will present Paws in the Park Dog Walk & Fest on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm in Gaithersburg, MD. The park is located at 506 South Frederick Avenue, next to Gaithersburg High School.

In its 21st year, Paws in the Park is a favorite of area pet lovers. The Festival runs from noon to 4 p.m. and features a 1-mile dog walk at 2 p.m. (trail sponsored by Herb Gordon Subaru). The event will also include kids' activities, music, food, vendors and new this year -- a silent auction. There will be contests for pets and their owners including best stay, best dressed, dog-owner lookalike, best trick, and more, with prizes awarded for first, second and third place finishers.

Albie Dee of 94.7 The Drive will emcee the fundraising event. Paid attendees will receive a goody bag filled with giveaways from many popular area companies – while supplies last.

The Canine Agility Course and Competition -- a crowd favorite -- will return this year, sponsored by ProMark Partners. This popular, off-leash area allows dogs to experience and compete in agility and other activities in the safety of an enclosed section. Prizes will be awarded in many categories.

Dozens of exhibitors will be on hand, many of whom will feature pet-related products or services, and there will be plenty of food for humans from a number of vendors. Media Sponsor 94.7 The Drive and sister station ConnectingVets.com will be on hand with giveaways and lots of surprises.

Registered walkers are encouraged to invite friends to support them through online donations. Supporters can sign up to fundraise individually or to form a fundraising team. Much of the event's fundraising happens when registrants reach out to friends, family and coworkers, encouraging them to donate funds to help homeless animals through the Paws in the Park web pages they create. Participant fundraising is expected to total more than \$25,000 this year.

“We look forward to this event every year,” says Cris Bombaugh, president and CEO of the Montgomery County Humane Society. “Paws in the Park is a fun day out for the dogs, their owners and all pet lovers in our area. You don’t have to bring a dog to have a good time! It is a wonderful day for animals in need, and it all supports our mission to end animal homelessness.”

Sponsors of the event currently include:

ProMark Partners, Herb Gordon Subaru, Pet Dominion Animal Hospital, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Olde Towne Pet Resort, Veterinary Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Group, Bark!, Veterinary Referral Associates, CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets, VCA North Rockville Animal Hospital, DogiZone, Caring Hands Animal Hospital, and more.

Advance registration for Paws in the Park is now open at <http://www.firstgiving.com/mchsmc/PawsinthePark2019>. Admission is \$15 for adults; children 12 and under are free. Admission at the gate is \$25 for adults. For more information visit www.mchumane.org.

#

About the Montgomery County Humane Society

The Montgomery Humane Society in Rockville, MD, is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization dedicated to ending animal homelessness in our community through education, outreach and adoption. The organization has been serving the Montgomery County community and beyond since 1958, and is the County’s preeminent animal welfare organization. After operating the Montgomery County Animal Shelter for more than 55 years, MCHS became fully independent and privately funded in April 2014, and now operates a private, no-kill rescue facility for cats and dogs in Rockville. Since it became independent, MCHS has rescued, cared for and adopted out nearly 3,000 cats and dogs, and will help approximately 600 more in 2019. For more information visit www.mchumane.org.

About the City of Gaithersburg

Located in the heart of Montgomery County, Gaithersburg became an incorporated city in 1878. With a population of 69,700, it is now one of the largest cities in Maryland. Gaithersburg is consistently and proudly ranked among the most diverse cities in the country. It is an international center of biotechnology, and boasts award-winning schools, neighborhoods and commercial developments. A respect for its heritage, demonstrated by revitalization efforts in the Olde Towne residential and commercial district, coupled with thoughtful planning for new communities and a commitment to cultural, recreational, and leisure activities, makes Gaithersburg an ideal community within the DC metropolitan area. For more information visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov